

The

COmbined DNA Index System

Newsletter

CODIS HIT LEADS TO A CHARGE IN A 1972 SEATTLE MURDER

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An unsolved murder from 1972 of a 58 year-old retired shoe repairman was given new life when CODIS matched the unknown forensic profile to the convicted offender profile of Samuel Evans. Evans has multiple convictions in Washington, Colorado, and Nevada but these convictions pre-dated laws for required DNA collection. Evans was required to submit a DNA sample in 2008, after moving to Washington State from Nevada where he was in prison for attacking a Las Vegas woman.

Thanks to legislation passed in 2008 mandating that anyone required to register on Washington

State's sex/kidnapping registry provide a DNA sample, major progress was made in this 38 year-old cold case.

Evans is also linked, through DNA evidence, to the 1968 murder of a Seattle clothing salesman.

These are just two examples of the power of the CODIS database and the importance of DNA sample collection.

For more information on these exciting CODIS hits please see the web-site below:

http://seattletimes.nwsources.com/html/local-news/2011232519_coldcase03m.html



LIMITED COLLECTOR TRAINING STILL AVAILABLE

The CODIS Laboratory is still offering limited collector training to our agencies. The training takes approximately one hour and covers: basics about CODIS, the CODIS Laboratory, and the ins and outs of convicted offender DNA sample collection.

If your agency is interested in having CODIS staff come to your facility for collector training please contact us at:

confel@wsp.wa.gov



DID YOU KNOW???

Statewide, there are approximately 4,400 individuals on Washington's Sex Offender Registry who do not have a DNA sample on file with the CODIS Laboratory as required by RCW 43.43.754. WSP's Criminal History Records Supervisor, Ms. Carolyn Sanchez, can provide a list of individuals in your county that still need to have their DNA collected and submitted to the CODIS Laboratory. To request this information, please contact Ms. Sanchez at:

carolyn.sanchez@wsp.wa.gov

WORKING TO REDUCE DUPLICATE SUBMISSIONS

The CODIS Laboratory has recently observed an increase in the number of duplicate submissions we receive; 25% (up from 20%). We are currently trying to work with our agencies to reduce this number. Your agency may be contacted by Marianne Lessard in regards to this issue.

As a reminder, [RCW 43.43.754](#) states that a DNA sample does not need to be taken if the CODIS Laboratory already has a sample from the offender.

An offender's criminal history record can be checked to determine if the CODIS Laboratory already has a sample from the offender. If the "DNA Taken" field is set to "Y", a sample **does not** need to be submitted.

If your agency does not have access to criminal history records, you can get access free through the Washington State Patrol using the WATCH search engine. To sign up for WATCH, visit the website listed below.

<https://watch.wsp.wa.gov/>

Q & A

My agency collects convicted offender DNA samples as the offenders are being released from jail—is it okay to continue this practice?

No. Per WAC 446-75-060, DNA samples for incarcerated individuals shall be collected as part of the intake process if the person was convicted on or after July 1, 2002. The sooner samples are submitted to the lab, the sooner a potential CODIS hit can occur and an investigation assisted.

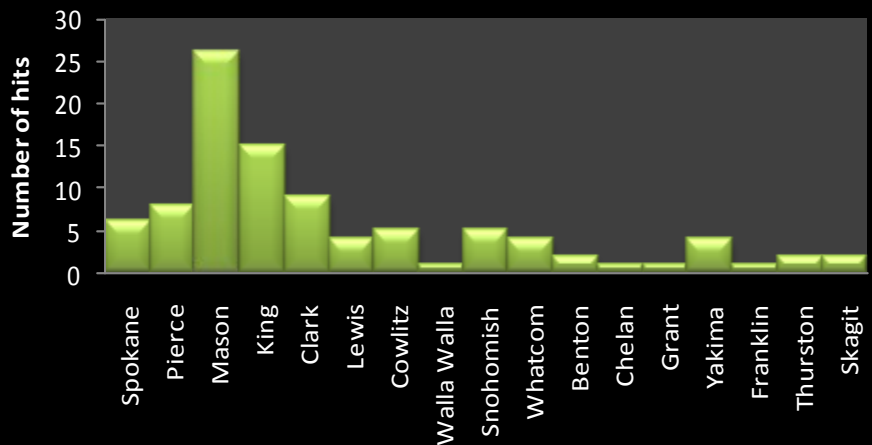
My agency has been receiving an increasing number of recollection requests, is there a reason for this?

Yes. In addition to processing samples received in 2010, the CODIS Laboratory is also processing older samples that were set aside when they were originally processed because of how weak they were. When these samples do not yield a full DNA profile, the analyst attempts to get another sample collected.

If an offender is convicted of a felony crime but the crime can be a felony or misdemeanor, should I indicate felony on the submission card?

Yes. By indicating felony for these types of offenses CODIS staff will not have to look these samples up in the criminal history or call the agency for clarification. This will save time for the CODIS staff and your agency.

2010 Hits by County



Current 2010 Hits By The County The Convicted Offender DNA Sample Was Collected In



SEND CONVICTED OFFENDER DNA SAMPLES THROUGH CAMPUS MAIL

If Consolidated Mail Services is available in your area, you may send your DNA samples through campus mail free of charge. If you use this service please batch samples and submit weekly.

If your agency is unable to use campus mail, you may batch your samples and send them in weekly to help save your agency money on postage.

CURRENT CODIS NUMBERS

- ~ 3000 forensic unknown samples from Washington State
- ~ 186,000 convicted offender samples from Washington State
- ~ 7,600,000 convicted offender samples nationally
- ~ 311,000 forensic unknown samples nationally